

## ***THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY***

**December 2011 – Week 4**

**Air Date: December 18 – December 24 (Sunday – Saturday)**



### **TITLE: THE CHRISTMAS EVE HANGINGS**

CHRISTMAS 1883 AND TEXANS DECORATE A TREE... WITH OUTLAWS.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY, BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS STATION AND THE SAVE TEXAS HISTORY PROGRAM OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

DECEMBER 24, 1883. MCDADE. AFTER A RUN OF VIOLENT CRIMES, A MASKED VIGILANTE COMMITTEE FIGHTS BACK.

AT 7:30 ON CHRISTMAS EVE, THE MOB ENTERS THE ROCK SALOON AND PULLS OUT THREE SUSPECTS. TAKEN TO A TREE OUTSIDE OF TOWN, THE THREE ARE HUNG UNTIL DEAD. ONE MAN WAS MOST LIKELY INNOCENT.

ON CHRISTMAS DAY, FRIENDS OF THE HANGED MEN COME TO TOWN LOOKING FOR TROUBLE. A SHOOTOUT ENSUES. THREE MORE DIE.

THE KILLINGS MAKE NATIONAL NEWS, BUT NO ONE IS EVER CHARGED. THE STATE MILITIA ARRIVES... AND MCDADE FINALLY ENJOYS PEACE ON EARTH.

MCDADE CELEBRATED A BLOODY CHRISTMAS 128 YEARS AGO, THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY.

MERRY CHRISTMAS, TEXAS!

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Paula Mitchell Marks, "MCDADE, TX," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hlm45>), accessed December 08, 2011. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

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